

Message Text

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SUBJ: PRESS SUMMARY ON CSCE FOR AUG 3

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1. FINNISH PRESS TODAY REPORTED ON THE DEPARTURE OF CSCE PARTICIPANTS, FORD-BREZHNEV MEETING IN HELSINKI AND THE AFTERMATH OF CSCE. EDITORIAL COMMENT CONCENTRATED ON CSCE IN GENERAL, BILATERAL MEETINGS AND CYPRUS PROBLEM.

2. FORD-BREZHNEV MEETING. THE SECOND FORD-BREZHNEV MEETING IN HELSINKI RECEIVED HEAVY COVERAGE IN FINNISH MEDIA ALTHOUGH EQUALLED BY THE SCHMIDT-GIEREK TALKS IN SOME NEWSPAPERS. INDEPENDENT HELSINGIN SANOMAT CARRIED AN EIGHT-COLUMN FRONT-PAGE REPORT (A FIVE-COLUMN PICTURE INCLUDED) HEADLINED: "FORD, BREZHNEV DISCUSS SALT" REPORTING THAT AFTER THE THREE HOUR 20 MINUTE TALKS PRESIDENT FORD LOOKED GRIM WHILE PARTY LEADER BREZHNEV WAS IN GOOD MOOD. THE PAPER QUOTED AMBASSADOR WALTER STOESSEL AS SAYING THAT THE TALKS CONCENTRATED EXCLUSIVELY ON SALT. PRESIDENT FORD SAID THAT HIS TALKS WITH BREZHNEV WERE ENCOURAGING AND HE EXPECTED THE SOVIET LEADER TO WASHINGTON IN THE AUTUMN

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TO SIGN THE NEW SALT AGREEMENT, THE PAPER SAID.

OTHER HEADLINES: "THE BIG PONDER SALT" (CONSERVATIVE UUSI SUOMI), "HARD FORD-BREZHNEV NEGOTIATIONS, SALT AGREEMENT EXPECTED TO BE CLEAR BY AUTUMN" (SWEDISH-LANGUAGE HUFVUDSTADSBLADET) AND "BREZHNEV AND FORD FOR THE SECOND TIME: SALT THE TOP SUBJECT IN THE LONG SESSION" (COMMUNIST KANSAN UUTISET). THE FINNISH BROADCASTING COMPANY CARRIED A FILM CLIP OF THE BOTH LEADERS EMERGING FROM THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN THE MAIN 9 P.M. TELEVISION NEWS PROGRAM.

3. FORD'S EUROPEAN TRIP. UUSI SUOMI CARRIED A REUTERS ADVANCER ON PRESIDENT FORD'S TRIP TO YUGOSLAVIA WHILE HUFVUDSTADSBLADET HAD A THREE-COLUMN AP REPORT ON THE PRESIDENT'S ARRIVAL IN BUCHAREST HEADLINES "FORD WARMLY WELCOMED IN ROMANIA."

4. EDITORIAL COMMENT. INDEPENDENT HELSINGIN SANOMAT DISCUSSED THE GENERAL SPIRIT OF CSCE AND BILATERAL MEETINGS IN A LENGTHY EDITORIAL. ON CSCE: "ONE CAN NOW NOTE THE OPTIMISTIC 'SPIRIT OF HELSINKI' THAT PREVAILED IN THE CONFERENCE. THE PROBLEMS REMAIN THE SAME AND THERE IS NO SHORT CUT TO A 'READY-MADE WORLD.' HOWEVER, THE SOLEMN PROMISE GIVEN BY THE HIGHEST POLITICAL LEADERS OF 35 COUNTRIES THAT THERE WILL BE EFFORTS TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS PEACEFULLY AND ON THE BASIS OF JOINTLY AGREED PRINCIPLES IS A VALUABLE RESULT AS SUCH," THE PAPER SAID. ON FORD-BREZHNEV TALKS: "THE LONG BILATERAL TALKS BETWEEN PARTY LEADER BREZHNEV AND PRESIDENT FORD WERE OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE. THE TOP SUBJECT WAS THE SALT TALKS NOW GOING ON IN GENEVA. REPORTEDLY MILITARY AND OTHER EXPERTS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAKE SO MUCH PROGRESS IN THE TALKS THAT THE DECISION RESTS WITH POLITICAL DECISION-MAKERS. BREZHNEV AND FORD GOT SO CLOSE TO AN AGREEMENT IN HELSINKI THAT WHEN THE FORMER TRAVELS TO THE UNITED STATES IN THE AUTUMN ONE COULD CELEBRATE A NEW STEP FORWARD."

COMMUNIST KANSAN UUTISET REVIEWED EDITORIALLY VARIOUS BILATERAL MEETINGS MENTIONING INSTANCE PRESIDENT FORD'S AND PRESIDENT KEKKONEN'S TALKS ON POSSIBILITIES FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION, INCLUDING THE SALE OF FINNISH ICEBREAKERS TO THE UNITED STATES. THE PAPER SAID THAT SOME OF THESE BILATERAL TALKS "MAY HAVE A GREAT IMPORTANCE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOP-
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MENT IN NEAR FUTURE."

SWEDISH-LANGUAGE HUFVUDSTADSBLADET COMMENTED ON THE CYPRUS CONTROVERSY IN THE CSCE AND SAID IN EDITORIAL: "THE 35 SIGNATURES HAVE NOW A VERY GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO TRY TO CONTINUE THEIR MEDIATION ATTEMPTS THROUGH ALL AVAILABLE CHANNELS IN ORDER TO REMOVE THE CYPRUS CONFLICT FROM THE AGENDA. THERE WOULD BE NO BETTER EXAMPLE THAT THE FINAL ACT IS NOT ONLY A PIECE OF PAPER BUT SOMETHING

HAPPENED IN REALITY IN HELSINKI."

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